

12 Minerva Avenue
Vincentia NSW 2540
Tel 02 4441 6992
November 26, 2000

The Manager
Marine Crews
Australian Maritime Safety Authority
PO Box 2181
Canberra City
ACT 2601

Dear Sir,

Re: Harold Robert STEVENS

I am wondering if it is possible that you may be able to assist me to locate historical service data of Harold Robert Stevens please.

The background to this request is that I am doing family history research, in particular into the background of my father's brother Harold, my uncle now deceased. I know very little about Harold, and practically all of what I do know has come from reading a copy of his WW2 A.M.F. & A.I.F. records, and a copy of his death certificate.

Harold was born at Point Lonsdale Victoria on 2nd September 1900 or 1902 - there are conflicting records of this year of birth. He died in Brisbane on 10 March 1954. His only child, Elizabeth is now deceased and was without issue.

Harold's Army records show that upon enlistment in the A.M.F on 7 July 1941 Harold "left of his own accord" the Merchant Navy after "7 years of service". I am quite keen to learn more about what Harold did during those 7 years in the Merchant Service, such as the names of the ships he sailed in, the House flags of these ships, the types of cargos carried, the routes sailed, and his various occupations. He was by trade a carpenter and house builder. Maybe he was a ship's carpenter.

I understand that the Polly Woodside museum has a mass of historical data some of which may be of use to me, but first I need to identify his ships and dates of service in these.

I am quite willing to pay as appropriate for any information which you may be able to provide for me.

Thankyou in anticipation of your response.

Yours faithfully,

George Stevens

Mr G Stevens
12 Minerva Avenue
Vincentia NSW 2540

Dear Mr Stevens

Thank you for your letter of 26 November 2000 concerning your deceased relative.

Records maintained by the Authority in the General Register of Seamen indicate that Mr Harold R Stevens born 1902 in Point Lonsdale joined the Neuralia (port of registry Glasgow, operated by the British India Steam Navigation Company) in Melbourne on 12 April 1940. No details are shown of the date and place of discharge, presumably because the ship was part of the British merchant navy and Mr Stevens was probably discharged in the United Kingdom.

Further information concerning his service would probably be available from the appropriate UK authority and I suggest you write to the following address in this regard:

Registry of Shipping and Seamen
Marine Safety Agency
Anchor House
Cheviot Close
Parc Ty Glas
Llanishen
Cardiff CF4 5JA
UNITED KINGDOM

Yours sincerely



R J Thomson
Manager
Marine Crews

29 November 2000

12 Minerva Avenue
Vincentia NSW 2540
Australia
Tel 61 2 4441 6992
email: stevegeorge@shoalhaven.net.au
December 10, 2000

The Director
Registry of Shipping & Seamen
Marine Safety Agency
Anchor House
Cheviot Close
Parc Ty Glas
Llanishen
Cardiff CF4 5JA
United Kingdom

Dear Sir,

I have been referred by Mr RJ Thomson, Manager Marine Crews, Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) Canberra Australia to you as someone who may be able to assist me with enquiries into past occupation of my father's brother Harold Robert Stevens, deceased 10 March 1954.

The background is that I am endeavouring to build a profile of my uncle Harold. This is part of a bigger venture of creating a family history to be passed on to my children and grandchildren.

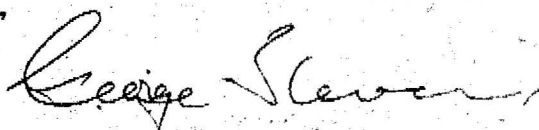
Harold was born in Point Lonsdale Victoria Australia in 1900 or 1902 (there are different records of his birth date). As an adult on 12th April 1940 Harold joined the ship "Neuralia", port of registry Glasgow then operated by the British India Steam Navigation Company. I am assuming that he signed on while the ship was in an Australian port, possibly Melbourne or Sydney. I know nothing of the capacity in which he served, but as he was a qualified builder, it is possible he was engaged as ship's carpenter.

The AMSA has no further details, and I assume therefore that Harold paid off the ship in UK. Perhaps he joined another ship, because he did join the Australian Military forces in July 1941 in Melbourne Australia.

If you are able to provide me with any relevant information about Harold's service in the British Mercantile Marine, I would appreciate it greatly. Please advise what search and document copying fees are payable. Perhaps the easiest manner of payment will be via Visa credit card

Thankyou in anticipation of your response.

Yours faithfully,



George Stevens



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Registry of Shipping & Seamen
Anchor House
Cheviot Close
Parc Ty Glas
Llanishen
CARDIFF
CF14 5JA
TEL : 029 20768227
FAX : 029 20747877

George Stevens
12 Minerva Avenue
Vincentia NSW 2540
Australia

02/01/2001

Dear Mr Stevens,

Thank you for your letter, dated 10.12.2000 concerning **Harold Robert Stevens**.

I am not able to reply to your enquiry in detail, or give you an individual reply due to the great number of historical enquiries, which we receive.

In these circumstances, I enclose details of the various records of the merchant service held at this office and also the location of records, which have been transferred to other locations.

These records include: Records of individual merchant seaman's sea service, Ships official log books and crew agreements and deaths at sea.

Please read this information carefully, it will help you decide if you wish to have a search made in our records, or if you need to contact another record office.

I hope that this information will be of assistance to you, and wish you every success with your search.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Staples
Records Officer



Reg. No. FS34835

